

STATE OF MARYLAND OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

June 9, 2022

Erek L. Barron United States Attorney for the District of Maryland 36 South Charles Street, 4th Floor Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Re: Maryland Office of the Inspector General for Education Case 20-0003-I (Grade Changing in Baltimore City Public Schools)

Dear United States Attorney Barron:

On June 7, 2022, Maryland's Inspector General for Education issued an Investigative Report Summary in the above-referenced case (the "Report"), a copy of which accompanies this letter. The findings in the Report suggest a widespread pattern and practice in the Baltimore City Public Schools ("BCPS") of manipulating the grades of failing students to give them minimum passing grades.

As you know, BCPS receives millions of dollars in federal funding every year. That funding requires BCPS to comply with a variety of conditions, including the achievement of certain outcomes and the submission of truthful information to the federal government. If true, the grade manipulation revealed in the Report is not only a disservice to the affected students, it is an abuse of federal taxpayer dollars and quite possibly a violation of federal law.

Accordingly, I respectfully request that you investigate the matters revealed in the Report and, where appropriate, bring federal criminal charges against the persons who have perpetrated the fraud, waste and abuse alleged therein.

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.

Governor

Enclosure

cc: Richard P. Henry, Inspector General for Education